

Then on Sept. 9th, 1960, while collecting near Carl Junction, Jasper County, Missouri, about ten miles n. w. of the Joplin localities, I again found the plant growing on chat piles of abandoned mines, about a mile and a half from the town. The plants here were more abundant and averaged larger in size than at the Joplin localities; some of them were up to 7-8 dm. high and more widely branched above the middle. The collection No. is 69263.

The chat piles, on which *Mentzelia albescens* was growing, consist of crushed chert with a smaller admixture of limestone or dolomite or both from which the lead and zinc ore has been extracted. Because of its loose dry nature and the presence of alkalies and sulphides, the surface, if undisturbed, remains sterile for many years, and no plant life can find lodgment on it. However, it seems that this southwestern desert plant has found it to be a congenial habitat, for it is becoming abundant and is well established at all of the localities given above. Specimens of all the collections mentioned are deposited in the Ernest J. Palmer private herbarium, Webb City, Missouri. Duplicates of some of them will be sent to the Gray Herbarium, the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden, and to other herbaria.

Lonicera Xylosteum L. is another recent collection that appears to be new to the Missouri flora, though not to that of the Manual Range. A large plant was found growing in open upland woods, along a bank of an old electric railway grade, about half a mile north of Joplin, Missouri. It was collected under my No. 69188, Aug. 6, 1960. The range given for this introduced species in the eighth edition of Gray's Manual is N. E. to Mich., s to N. J., Penn. and O. — ERNEST J. PALMER, WEBB CITY, MISSOURI.

A NEW VARIETY OF *RUDBECKIA FULGIDA*. — *Rudbeckia fulgida* Ait. var. *auriculata* var. nov. Folia radicalia elliptica, lamina 15-25 cm. longa, 5-8 cm. lata, acuta, basi attenuata; folia caulina acuta, integra vel grosse serrata; folia caulina inferiora sessilia, pandurata vel spatulata, basi angustata, auriculata; folia caulina mediocria sessilia pandurata, basi lata, auriculata; folia caulina superiora sessilia ovata vel ovato-lanceolata, auriculata vel truncata.

Basal leaves elliptical, blade 15 to 25 cm. long, 5-8 cm. wide, acute, the base attenuate into a petiole that is $\frac{1}{2}$ as long to as long as the blade; cauline leaves acute, coarsely and irregularly serrate; lower cauline leaves sessile, pandurate with a narrow base or spatulate, strongly auriculate, those nearest the base (nodes 1-3) occasionally elliptic-spatulate but sessile and auriculate; middle cauline leaves sessile, pandurate with a broad base, strongly auriculate; upper cauline leaves and bracts subtending the branches sessile, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, auriculate or truncate.

TYPE: Moist soil along Alabama Highway 55, 11 miles south of McKenzie (2 miles north of Red Level), Covington Co., Alabama, *R. E. Perdue, Jr. 2177*, July 24, 1958. Type in the Gray Herbarium, isotype in the U. S. National Herbarium.

This variety is very distinct from the others of *R. fulgida*. In my key to the varieties of this species¹, the plant described here keys out to either *R. fulgida* var. *fulgida* or *R. fulgida* var. *spathulata* (Michx.) Perdue. Variety *auriculata* is readily distinguished from each of these as well as from its other relatives by the typically auriculate leaves of the lower and middle parts of the stem.

I first collected the new variety in very immature condition during the summer of 1952. Not until 1958 was I able to return to the original locality and obtain additional specimens to provide a basis for the description of this new variety. My original collection was taken from a small colony extending about 25 feet along a ditchbank and consisting of about 25 or 30 individual plants. When I made the second collection, 6 years later, the colony had expanded to several hundred plants extending along the ditchbank for some 300 feet. On two separate occasions I looked extensively elsewhere in the vicinity of the type locality without finding other plants of this variety. — ROBERT E. PERDUE, JR., U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE, CROPS RESEARCH DIVISION, BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND.

¹Synopsis of *Rudbeckia* subgenus *Rudbeckia*. RHODORA 59 (708): 293-299 (1957).